

**MINUTES
NORTH LEBANON TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION BOARD
March 1, 2022**

The meeting of the North Lebanon Township Parks & Recreation Board was called to order at 7:00 PM at the North Lebanon Township Municipal Building located at 725 Kimmerlings Road, North Lebanon Township. The pledge to the flag was recited.

The following members were present:

Dwayne Elder	Chair
Corey Uhrich	Vice-Chair
Ryan Schmidt	Member
Mark Grumbine	Member
Audrey Blauch	Member
Lori Books	Assistant Township Manager

Gary Heisey and Jim Cikovic were also in attendance.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

Audrey Blauch agreed to become a member of the Parks and Recreation Board. She completed the Oath of Office.

Chair Elder asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes or for a motion to approve the minutes from the February meeting.

MOTION: Motion was made and seconded to approve the February minutes. Motion approved unanimously.

ASSISTANT TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT-Lori Books

Old Business

GO Lebanon – Last month the Parks and Recreation Board members recommended that the GO Lebanon Program be approved to use Lions Lake Park this coming summer. The Board of Supervisors approved this recommendation.

Keystone Novelties – The Parks and Recreation Board members recommended last month that the Keystone Novelties group may set up their fireworks tent on the corner of Route 72 and Jay Street. The fee will be \$800.00 for 2022. The tent will be set up June

17th, sales will span from June 22nd through July 5th, and removal of the tent will be completed by July 10th. The Board of Supervisors approved this recommendation.

Baseball Agreements and Fees – Dwayne does not have any new information from what he reported last month. The Baseball Association will have one teener team and he believes Little League will have the 12U team play at Long Lane but is not certain. The 8U team will play on the field at the firehall.

Lori provided a spreadsheet which showed how neighboring Townships/Boroughs handle fees for out of state tournaments. North Cornwall, Myerstown, and Bethel all charge fees to hold these types of tournaments. The other surrounding areas do not allow them at all. Lori noted the other Townships/Boroughs do not charge an association fee for their local youth programs. North Cornwall does however charge a fee if the player is not a resident of the Township.

Discussions continued as to whether the associations should pay an annual fee. Lori mentioned the Fee Schedule for 2022 has already been approved by the Supervisors but could be amended if needed.

Corey stated the Township used to do a lot more for the fields in terms of maintenance and that was the reason an association fee was created. It helped to cover those costs. He explained the associations are now maintaining the fields and purchasing items such as Diamond Tex. He stated he does not feel it is fair to continue charging a fee when the associations do most of the maintaining of the fields. Lori responded the Township does have expenses such as electric, water and sewer for the restroom/concession stand building, lawn mowing and routine maintenance.

A recommendation was made by Corey to eliminate the \$500.00 association fee for all sport teams within the Township and seconded by Ryan.

MOTION: Motion was made and seconded to recommend the elimination of the \$500.00 association fee. Motion approved unanimously.

Lori asked what they are thinking in terms of the Future Star Tournaments? There is currently a fee of \$50.00 per game. Corey asked Lori to get an estimate of what the Township expenses are including water, sewer, trash, electric, etc. Dwayne asked if there are additional trash costs because of the tournaments? Lori responded they could get rid of the dumpster after the regular baseball season ends the beginning of July. The dumpsters are left there longer due to the tournaments. It was decided to re-evaluate the Future Stars Tournament Fees next month after Lori has a chance to obtain actual costs the Township incurs relating to field maintenance and services to the concession stand.

Lori will prepare and send a memo to Cheri for the Board of Supervisors.

New Business

Border Patrol – The Township is using Border Patrol again this year to help keep the goose population under control. They are set to begin today. Lori completed the registration to addle eggs for the year 2022.

Local Share Account Grant – Every year funds from the casinos throughout the state are used to create a grant opportunity. In previous years only the counties which had casinos located in them were eligible. This year the state has opened it up to the entire state making Lebanon County eligible. Lori is planning on submitting an application for the parking lot expansion/paving project at Lenni Lenape as she already has those numbers from the 2022 budget. The grant submission is due in two weeks. They will be expanding the parking area to create access to the newly constructed pavilion and paving the existing stone parking lot.

Pertinent Issues – The Ebenezer Beautification Committee reached out to the Township to obtain approval for a chicken BBQ fundraiser. The event would be held May 4th and would begin at 9 AM and last until 6 PM. Lori is looking for a recommendation from the Parks & Rec Board members. All members were in agreement to recommend approval for this event.

PARK & REC ACTIVITIES

General Activities – All restrooms are getting ready for the upcoming season.

Lion's Lake – The charcoal grill that was rusted out was repaired. A park bench in memory of Karl French was ordered.

Long Lane – Trees were removed on the bank near the score board. The brush that was growing over the white fence bordering WLBR was cut. The new backstop is nearing completion.

Community Park – All dedicated trees were pruned and mulched.

Lenni Lenape – All dedicated trees were pruned and mulched.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Mark asked if there has been much vandalism at the parks? Lori responded no; they haven't had many issues lately. She stated they did catch a few people dumping illegally and they were caught and fined.

Gary asked Lori if the Parks & Rec Board members had any input regarding the DCNR grant money that was awarded and the projects it would be put towards? Discussions

were held last year leading up to the grant submission and the board members are aware of what was requested in the grant. Now that the grant has been approved, the projects cannot change.

Audrey asked what has been going on with the lake and why the water levels have been going up and down. Lori explained the Township obtained a permit from DEP to keep the water levels down over the winter to dredge the lake so they could install a new floating boat dock and to also help prevent algae blooms over the summer. The level of the lake was lowered but it continues to rise because of rain.

Audrey also asked why the Township is removing the concrete slab in the middle of the lake that used to hold the sliding board? Lori explained it is due to liability. Gary stated that someone kayaking had attempted to get out of their kayak and climb on the concrete slab but slipped and fell.

The projects listed with the grant include the shoreline restoration, replacing the playground equipment, removing the island in the middle of the lake, improving all the walking paths, paving the stone lots, and upgrades to the softball field. The Lebanon County Consortium will be covering the Township's portion of the costs for the shoreline restoration. The award letter from DCNR for \$250,000.00 was just step one. The Township must now apply for the funds through one of various agencies listed in the award letter to obtain the funds.

MOTION: Motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Motion approved unanimously.

With there being no more business brought before the Parks and Recreation Board the meeting was adjourned at 7:34 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Molly Lum
Recording Secretary